

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 GSA-02 AID-20

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

INT-08 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SAM-01 NSC-10 SS-20

STR-08 CEA-02 L-03 H-03 DRC-01 SCI-06 /223 W
----- 065831

R 151608Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7828

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 0705

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN ETRD NO

SUBJ: CONFERENCE OF BAUXITE PRODUCING COUNTRIES

REF: STATE 16758

1. ON FEBRUARY 14, EMBOFF DISCUSSED CONAKRY BAUXITE MEETING WITH
DAG MORK-ULNES, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL DEALING WITH RAW MATERIAL
POLICY. MORK-ULNES HAD NO INFORMATION ON CONAKRY MEETING OTHER
THAN PRESS REPORTS.

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2. MORK-ULNES REPORTED THAT THE FIVE MAJOR NORWEGIAN ALUMINUM

MANUFACTURERS BELIEVE THAT THEIR "LONG-TERM" CONTRACTS PROVIDE SOME INSURANCE AGAINST UNILATERAL PRICE INCREASES OR PRODUCTION BOYCOTTS BY BAUXITE PRODUCERS. EMBOFF MENTIONED THAT COUNTRIES LIKE GUYANA, WHICH NATIONALIZED THE BAUXITE INDUSTRY IN THAT COUNTRY AND GAVE ALCAN ITS WALKING PAPERS, MIGHT NOT REGARD SUCH CONTRACTS AS BEING INVOLABLE. MORK-ULNES SAID THIS PARALLELED HIS THINKING BUT HE WANTED TO MAKE KNOWN THE VIEWS OF THE NORWEGIAN ALUMINUM MANUFACTURERS. HE NOTED THAT THERE ARE INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES WHICH COULD PRODUCE ECONOMICALLY VIABLE SUBSTITUTES FOR BAUXITE AND STATED THAT NORWAY USED "NORWEGIAN CLAY" WHEN ITS ALUMINUM INDUSTRY WAS STARTED YEARS AGO. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT NORWEGIAN ALUMINUM OFFICIALS REPORTED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD "ADVANCED METHODS" FOR SUBSTITUTING OTHER MATERIALS FOR BAUXITE TO PRODUCE ALUMINUM AND SUCH METHODS COULD BE LEARNED. MORK-ULNES ALSO FELT THAT AUSTRALIA WOULD HAVE A MODERATING EFFECT ON A BAUXITE PRODUCERS' FRONT AND WOULD MAKE REALISTIC NEGOTIATIONS POSSIBLE.

3. MORK-ULNES SAID THAT HE WILL INFORM US IF THE NORWEGIANS LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CONAKRY CONFERENCE.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: EMIN, ETRD, NO
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